

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-02 OMB-01 AID-05 SSM-03 IO-13 /080 W

-----270356Z 056453 /21

R 261430Z MAY 77

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9017

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, PINS, IS, JO

SUBJECT: GUSH EMUNIM REPORTEDLY GIRDING FOR SETTLEMENT ATTEMPTS

REF: (A) JERUSALEM 499; (B) JERUSALEM 703

1. EAST JERUSALEM ARABIC PRESS MAY 26 REPORTS THAT A GUSH EMUNIM GROUP COMPRISING A SCORE OF FAMILIES AND SOME 30 SINGLES WILL UNDERTAKE IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO SETTLE AT ABU QARNAYN, ABOUT MID-WAY BETWEEN NABLUS AND QALQILYA. THE SITE WAS THE TARGET OF THE GUSH'S APRIL 6 PASSOVER MARCH. (REF A) GUSH ACTIVISTS HAVE TOLD CONGEN OFFICER THAT THE SITE IS VALUED FOR ITS STRATEGIC POSITION OVERLOOKING THE COASTAL CITIES AND BECAUSE THE LAND WAS GOJ-OWNED AND IS NOW GOI-CONTROLLED.

2. VOA CORRESPONDENT HAS TOLD US THAT HE HAS SEEN A LIST OF ABOUT 50 GUSH SETTLER WHO ARE ACTIVELY PLANNING A SETTLEMENT IN JERICHO. HE HAS BEEN TOLD THAT THE SETTLERS WILL LOCATE IN ABANDONED BUILDINGS THERE. IN THE PAST, THE IDF

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HAS BLOCKED NUMEROUS UNAUTHORIZED ATTEMPTS (MOST RECENTLY MAY 6) TO SETTLE IN JERICHO. (REF B)

3. AN ESTIMATED 5,000 SUPPORTERS INCLUDING ASHKENAZI CHIEF RABBI SHLOMO GOREN, NRP LEADER ZEVULUN HAMMER AND GUSH EMUNIM ACTIVIST HANAN PORAT, RECENTLY ATTENDED A CEREMONY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A TORA SCROLL IN THE NEW SETTLEMENT OF MESHAH

(NOW OFFICIALLY PE'ERIM), ACCORDING TO THE JERUSALEM POST. THE LIKUD'S BEGIN REPORTEDLY SENT GREETINGS FROM HIS HOSPITAL BED. PORAT IS QUOTED TO HAVE SAID: "THIS IS OUR OPPORTUNITY. THE MISSION OF GUSH EMUNIM NOW IS TO GRAB AND SETTLE. IN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS WE MUST SET UP 20 NEW SETTLEMENTS IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA".

4. COMMENT: AS WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THE GUSH'S SPRING MARCH TOGETHER WITH KAHANE'S SETTLEMENT ANTICS, SPARKED A LONG SERIES OF DEMONSTRATIONS IN NABLUS AND OTHER NORTHERN CITIES WHICH CULMINATED IN THE DEATH OF TWO ARABS SHOT BY ISRAELI SECURITY FORCES IN QABATIYAH MAY 3. IT IS LIKELY THAT ACTUAL SETTLEMENT ATTEMPTS WOULD PRODUCE THE FIRST SERIOUS CONFRONTATION BETWEEN ARABS AND THE IDF SINCE THE ELECTION. SETTLEMENTS AT ABU QARNAYN AND JERICHO WOULD ALSO BE SIGNIFICANT DEVIATIONS FROM THE ALLON PLAN WHICH PROHIBITED SETTLEMENTS IN DENSELY POPULATED AREAS AND IN "THE HEART OF SAMARIA". SO-CALLED ABANDONED BUILDINGS IN JERICHO MAY BE A REFERENCE TO THE TWO LARGELY DESERTED REFUGEE CAMPS. NEWLIN

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## Message Attributes

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**Reference:** 77 JERUSALEM 499, 77 JERUSALEM 703  
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**Review Markings:**  
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